

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): An inspecting method for a light source of an image reader reading an image recorded on an original, said light source including a plurality of light emitting elements and said image reader comprising a photoelectric converter for receiving a light emitted from said light source toward said original and for converting the received light into an electric signal, said inspecting method for the light source comprising the steps of:

receiving the light of each of said light emitting elements with said photoelectric converter, the light being received without passing through said original;

converting the received light into a photoelectric signal;

forming an inspection image representing a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal;

displaying said inspection image which includes marks deposited correspondingly to positions of said respective light emitting elements; and

inspecting said light source by watching said light-emission states of said light emitting elements.

2. (original): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 1, wherein said image reader is disposed at an optical axis between said light source and said photoelectric

converter, and said image reader includes a detachable diffusion member for diffusing the light of the respective light emitting elements when reading said image, said diffusion member being removed when displaying said light-emission state.

3. (original): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 2, wherein said image reader includes an image-forming lens, which is movable between a first position for forming said image on said photoelectric converter and a second position for forming an image of said light source on said photoelectric converter, said image-forming lens being set to said second position when displaying said light-emission state.

4. (currently amended): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 3, comprising:

~~wherein providing an LED as said light emitting element is an LED.~~

5. (currently amended): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 4, comprising:

~~wherein providing an area CCD as said photoelectric converter is an area CCD for receiving the light emitted from said LED.~~

6. (previously presented): An inspecting system for a light source of an image reader reading an image recorded on an original, said light source including a plurality of light emitting elements, said inspecting system for the light source comprising:

a photoelectric converter for receiving a light emitted from said light source and for converting the received light into a photoelectric signal, the light being received by said photoelectric converter without passing through said original;

an image forming means for forming an inspection image representing a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal; and

a display for showing said inspection image which includes marks deposited correspondingly to positions of said respective light emitting elements.

7. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 6, wherein said image reader is disposed at an optical axis between said light source and said photoelectric converter, and said image reader includes a detachable diffusion member for diffusing the light of the respective light emitting elements when reading said image, said diffusion member being removed when showing said inspection image on said display.

8. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 7, wherein said image reader includes an image-forming lens, which is movable between a first position for forming said image on said photoelectric converter and a second position for forming an image

of said light source on said photoelectric converter, said image-forming lens being set to said second position when showing said inspection image on said display.

9. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 8, wherein said inspection image represents the light-emission states of said light emitting elements in accordance with an arrangement thereof.

10. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 6, wherein said light source includes the light emitting element for emitting infrared rays.

11. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 10, wherein said light emitting element is an LED.

12. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 11, wherein said photoelectric converter is an area CCD for receiving the light emitted from said LED.

13. (original): An inspecting method for a light source of an image reader reading an image recorded on an original, said light source including a plurality of light emitting elements and said image reader comprising a photoelectric converter for receiving a light emitted from said light source toward said original and for converting the received light into an electric signal, said inspecting method for the light source comprising the steps of:

receiving the light of each of said light emitting elements with said photoelectric converter, the light being received without passing through said original; converting the received light into a photoelectric signal; inspecting a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal; and automatically judging whether said light source is a defect or not, on the basis of an inspection result of said light-emission state.

14. (original): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 13, wherein said image reader is disposed at an optical axis between said light source and said photoelectric converter, and said image reader includes a detachable diffusion member for diffusing the light of the respective light emitting elements when reading said image, said diffusion member being removed when inspecting said light-emission state.

15. (original): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 14, wherein said image reader includes an image-forming lens, which is movable between a first position for forming said image on said photoelectric converter and a second position for forming an image of said light source on said photoelectric converter, said image-forming lens being set to said second position when inspecting said light-emission state.

16. (currently amended): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 15, comprising:

~~wherein providing an LED as said light emitting element is an LED.~~

17. (currently amended): An inspecting method for a light source according to claim 16, comprising:

~~wherein providing an area CCD as said photoelectric converter is an area CCD for receiving the light emitted from said LED.~~

18. (previously presented): An inspecting system for a light source of an image reader reading an image recorded on an original, said light source including a plurality of light emitting elements, said inspecting system for the light source comprising:

a photoelectric converter for receiving a light emitted from said light source and for converting the received light into a photoelectric signal, the light being received by said photoelectric converter without passing through said original; and

judgment means for inspecting a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal, said judgment means automatically judging whether said light source is a defect or not.

19. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 18, wherein said image reader is disposed at an optical axis between said light source and said photoelectric

converter, and said image reader includes a detachable diffusion member for diffusing the light of the respective light emitting elements when reading said image, said diffusion member being removed when inspecting said light-emission state.

20. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 19, wherein said image reader includes an image-forming lens, which is movable between a first position for forming said image on said photoelectric converter and a second position for forming an image of said light source on said photoelectric converter, said image-forming lens being set to said second position when inspecting said light-emission state.

21. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 18, wherein said light source includes the light emitting element for emitting infrared rays.

22. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 21, wherein said light emitting element is an LED.

23. (original): An inspecting system for a light source according to claim 22, wherein said photoelectric converter is an area CCD for receiving the light emitted from said LED.

24. (previously presented): The inspecting method of claim 1, wherein the original is one of a photographic film and a recording sheet.

25. (previously presented): The inspecting system of claim 6, wherein the original is one of a photographic film and a recording sheet.

26. (previously presented): The inspecting method of claim 13, wherein the original is one of a photographic film and a recording sheet.

27. (previously presented): The inspecting system of claim 18, wherein the original is one of a photographic film and a recording sheet.

28. (previously presented): The inspecting method of claim 1, wherein, when said image reader is in a reading mode, said photoelectric converter receives light emitted from said light source after said light passes through said original or after said light is reflected by said original.

29. (previously presented): The inspecting system of claim 6, wherein, when said image reader is in a reading mode, said photoelectric converter receives light emitted from said light source after said light passes through said original or after said light is reflected by said original.

30. (previously presented): The inspecting method of claim 13, wherein, when said image reader is in a reading mode, said photoelectric converter receives light emitted from said light source after said light passes through said original or after said light is reflected by said original.

31. (previously presented): The inspecting system of claim 18, wherein, when said image reader is in a reading mode, said photoelectric converter receives light emitted from said light source after said light passes through said original or after said light is reflected by said original.

32. (new): The inspecting method of claim 13, comprising:
forming an inspection image representing a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal;
displaying said inspection image, which represents a positional arrangement of the light emitting elements, on a display.

33. (new): The inspecting system of claim 18, comprising:
an image forming means for forming an inspection image representing a light-emission state of each of said light emitting elements on the basis of said photoelectric signal; and
a display for showing said inspection image, which represents a positional arrangement of the light emitting elements.

34. (new): The inspecting method of claim 13, wherein said photoelectric converter directly receives said light from said light emitting elements through said image-forming lens.

35. (new): The inspecting system of claim 18, wherein said photoelectric converter directly receives said light from said light emitting elements through said image-forming lens.